57

A True and Exact

COPY

OF A

PRODIGIOUS and TRAITEROUS

LIBEL,

Affixt upon the Church-door of *Kettle*, in *Fife*, the third of this instant, being *Easter-day*; written and subscribed by *James Russel*, one of those bloody and Sacrilegious Murtherers of this late Lord Primate of *Scotland*, his Grace.

EDINBURGH,
Printed, Anno DOM. 1682.

EDINBURGH, Printed, anno DOM. 1681.

COPY

A TO

PROPOSALS and TRAITEROUS FIBEL,

Edinburgh, eighteenth day of April, 1681.

Upon the Church-door of Kelso, a Original, Verbatim Copies, Authorized publick, Subscribed by this exact able Draught thereof, Kept a-mong the Records of His Majesties Privy Council; and Subscribed by Sir Patrick Hume of Polwarth, Cl. Sti. Concilij.

A True and Exact

COPY

OF A

PRODIGIOUS and TRAITEROUS LIBEL,

Affixt upon the Church-door of Kettle in Fife, &c.

BE it kend to all men, That whereas these who were once lawful Magistrats and Rulers, and were exercising their power in opposition to all the Enemies of God and were a terrour to all evil doers, are now become Tyrants and Land judgements, and Murderers of all these who departs from iniquity, and who are jeoparding their lives every day for maintaining and promoving of the Gospel of Christ and the true *Presbyterian Government*, which the three Kingdoms swore often nor once or twice to maintain with their lives and liberties, which Oaths they have all now broken, and have taken new Oaths contrair to the word of God, in oppositon to their former Oaths and Engagements, by the which doing, they have overturned the whole Government, Civil and Ecclesiastick, and having made butcheries and havock of all the truly Godly, and loyal and true subjects of the Land, and raised such Persecution, that I was forced to flee the Country; and I hearing tell that my Mother and others who medled with my Affairs, were still paying the Few-Duty (which properly belongs to the Crowd of *Scotland*) and Sels, which that Tyrant caules uplift for the building down the Gospel of Christ, and for maintaining their Butcheres, Troopers and Souldiers, and was paying that Tithe which properly belongs to the Ministers of the Gospel of Christ, to Mr *John Barkley*, who is both a thief and a robber; by the paying of which, they acknowledge *Charles Stewart* to be a lawful Magistrate, and Mr *John Barkley* to be a Minister of Jesus Christ, which is blasphemy to say, as I shall prove afterwards; and after several times writing to my Mother, and some others who pretended kindness to me, shewing the great sin that we were involved in, by owning any of these Tyrants any manner of way, and earnestly desiring her to forbear and not to own them any manner of way directly or indirectly, but rather to suffer the outmost of hazard, than to sin against God, by strengthning the hands of the

stated and avowed enemies of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is King, and alone Head of his Church; but my writing being to no purpose, and I being convinced of the greatness of this sin, and the heinous aggravations thereof, and the Judgements that would follow, if repentance prevented not, and being exercised for a long time, about what way to take for exoneration of my conscience before God and the World, and a testimony against all others who does go on in that sin, the clear conviction of the indispensibleness of this my duty, I have now resolved (upon the grace of God) to the outward hazard whatsomever, to write this two or three Lines, and cause fix it on the Kirk-door of *Leith*, being the most publick place, as my testimony against all the wrongs and injuries done to my sweet Lord Jesus Christ.

As I do own and declare before God and the World, that Magistracie is an ordinance of God, so I disown, and declare, that Tyranny is not of God, and so in opposition to God, and so against God, and therefore cannot be of God: and *Charles Stewart* being once made King of *Scotland*, upon condition that he should keep these Covenants, and rule according to these Covenants, and the Covenants being the Coronation Oath, which Oath he has broken, and caused burn these Covenants (which was the contract and Covenant betwixt him and the people) by the hands of the Hangman, by the burning of which Covenant, he has forfaulted his right of the Crown and Kingdom of *Scotland*, and is no more a King, but is become a Tyrant; therefore the people is loosed from all obligations and ties as to him. *Buchanan* acknowledges and sayes, *When the King breaks the Covenant and Contract that was betwixt Him and the people and doth contrair to that he hath sworn to do, whatever Right or Privilege he had by virtue of the Agreement or Covenant it then left.* Likewise he saith, *A bound King doth those things which are directly for the dissolution of Society; for the observance whereof he was created, He is a Tyrant.* Other Loyalists acknowledge and say, *When a King overturns and subverts Fundamental Laws, He is no more a King, but a Tyrant.* 2. They say, *When a Supream Magistrate makes use of absolute power, and takes what he wants for the good of the whole Society, he is a Tyrant.* 3. They say, *When He taketh from one or more members of the Commonwealth, what ever is right of the Orthodox Clergie or Religion, He is a Tyrant.* 4. They say, *When a King does not defend his Subjects from injuries, when he may, but suffereth them to be oppressed, He is no more a King, but a Tyrant:* (And much more when he oppresses them and murders them himself, as *Charles Stewart* does.) 5. They say, *When a King oppresses the Subjects by immoderate exactions, and hinders the free suffrages of Members of Parliament, so that they dare not speak what they would, He is a Tyrant.* 6. They say, *When He taketh away from the People all power to resist His Tyranny, as Arms, Strongholds, and chief men though innocent, he persecuteth and exhausts dying people without right or reason, He is a Tyrant.* 7. They say, *When a Magistrate for corrupting of youth, erects Stage playes, Whore-*

houses

houses, and other Play-houses, and suffers the Colledges, and other Seminaries of Learning to be corrupted, they are unfit for any Office, therefore He must be a Tyrant. Prov. 6, 13. *Righteous lips are the delight of Kings, and they love him that speaketh right,* therefore *Charles Stewart* cannot be a King, because the unrighteous lips are his delight, and he loveth all them that doeth evil and speaketh against the truth, and therefore he must be Tyrant? and seing that the least of all these forenamed particulars makes a King a Tyrant, surely without debate *Charles Stewart* must be one of the Monstruous and wildest of Tyrants, for he is guilty of all these, and has overturned the whole Fundamental Laws of the Land, by that Act of Iessory, and has set up lustful and Tyrannical Laws of his own, in opposition to the Laws of God, and the Ancient Laws o the Land; and if we will believe *Buchannan* and other *sound* Writers, *a Tyrant has no just authority over a people, neither is the people to own or obey him in any thing, for he is their enemy,* and sayeth he, *there is a just and lawful war with an enemy*; much more with the enemy of all mankind, that is Tyrant, of the which Tyrants *Charles Stewart* is one: and he saith, a lawful war being once undertaken with our enemy, and for a just cause, *it is lawful not only for the whole people to kill that enemy, but for every one of them* I would speak that question at these who are not of this judgement, seing that Tyrants are reckoned in amongst the number of the most cruel brute beasts by all sound Writers, and the Scripture, Ps. 22. 12. calls them *Bulls of Bashan*, of the which Bulls, *Charles Stewart* is one, and all his associats are Bulls and Keyn of *Bashan*: What would you judge to be your duty, if there were a wild and mad Bull running up and down all *Scotland*, killing and slaying all that were come in his way, man, wife, and bairn? would you not think it your duty and every ones duty to kill him, according to that Scripture, *Exod.* 21, 28. 29. and if this be granted, as it cannot be denied, wherefore should any say, that it is not lawful to kill *Charles Stewart* or his associats, that hath been these twenty years, as it were, running up and down *Scotland*, killing and slaying all the true subjects of the Land, and are still continuing, and killing all that are departing from iniquity, and are adhering to, and pursuing the ends of the *Covenants*, by desiring to bring all Malignants to condign punishment, according to the *Covenants*, which all the three Kingdoms did swear with lifted up hands to the most High God.

Therefore I *James Russel* portioner of *Kettle*, does reject *Charles Stewart* from being my King, or from having any lawful authority over me; and I do declare before the world, that I will not own nor obey him any manner of way, either by paying of Fewty, Duty, or any other thing which properly belongs to the Crown of *Scotland*, or that which they call Sets, which is falsely imposed upon the Kingdom, and lifted up for the banishing Christ and his Gospel out of the Land, yea, for upholding and maintaining ruffian Troopers and Souldiers, for no other thing but that they may Crucifie Christ in his members every day; and likewise I protest

against

againſt *my Mother* and *Fames Dale*, who is now labouring my Land, at my Mothers inſtance, againſt their paying of the Few-Duty, or any other thing which properly belongs to the Crown of *Scotland*, but not to a Tyrant, and therefore not to *Charles Stewart*; and againſt the paying of that which they call Seſs. And likewiſe I do proteſt againſt all theſe who take the name of Chriſtians to themſelves, who owns him or acknowledges him to have any lawful authority over them; and I do proteſt againſt the owning of any that has their authority and power flowing from him, either higher or lower Courts of Judicatures, for theſe who have no power themſelves, cannot cloath others with power and authority: and *Charles Stewart* hath no power, therefore he cannot cloath any other with power and authority, for he cannot give others that which he hath not himſelf; therefore all theſe Courts and Judicatories that have their Power flowing only from *Charles Stewart*, have no lawful Power nor authority, more nor theſe who receives a commiſſion from a Robber to go and kill and ſlay all that they meet with on the High way; therefore cannot be owned nor obedience given to them any manner of way, except they ſay that we muſt *obey the Devil, whoſe Vicegerents they are*, and that will not be granted. And I do declare, that I look upon all who own that Tyrant or any under him to be lawful Magiſtrats, to be guilty of Blaſphemy, and I prove it Rom. 13. *For there is no power but of God, and the powers that be are ordained of God*; therefore that power that is exerciſed in oppoſition to God and godlineſs cannot be of God, for Rulers are not a terrour to good works, but to the evil, for he is the Miniſter of God to thee for good: Therefore *Charles Stewart*'s power is not of God, for he exerciſes all his power in oppoſition to God and Godlineſs, and he is a terrour to good Works, and he gives praiſe and gifts to all theſe who do Evil; therefore *he is the Miniſter of the Devil* to thee for Evil, for he executes Wrath on theſe who do Good, and therefore he hath no power of God; and therefore it muſt be acknowledged that it is the height of Blaſphemy to ſay that he is a lawful Magiſtrate, ſeeing that he exerciſes all his power in oppoſition to God; and therefore is no lawful Power, but an uſurped tyrannical Power: Therefore, I would deſire all that profeſſe to be Chriſtians, to beware of calling *Charles Stewart* a lawful Magiſtrate, or any whoſe power flowes from him, to be lawful Rulers, leſt ye be found amongſt the number of theſe Blaſphemers, who ſay, that God is the Author of Sin; and ye may read the Blaſphemers doom in *Lev.* 24.16. *And he that blaſphemeth the Name of the Lord, he ſhall ſurely be put to death, and all the Congregation ſhall ſurely ſtone him*, &c. *Numb.* 15.30,31. I would deſire all who are expectants of Heaven, as they would not have God to be their enemy, to beware of doing any thing that ſtrengthens the enemies of Chriſts hands, if it were but to give them a leepy of Corn, or a bottel of Straw to their Horſe, or Bread or Drink, or Lodging to themſelves; for Chriſts enemies is another thing, nor our particular enemies. They that will prepare a Table for that Troop,

 and

and furniſh the Drink-offering for that number, they may read their ſentence in *Iſa.* 65. 12: *Therefore will I number you to the ſword, and ye ſhall bow down to the ſlaughter*, &c. and do it who will, when the Lord makes inquiſition for the blood of his Saints, I am ſure they will be found guilty, and to be more nor conſenters to the Saints murdering, *Act.* 25. 20. Yea, it is, as it were a buying of a ſword, and putting of it into a Robbers hand, to cut off all that's walking or trafficking in the Kings free road; yea it will be found to be a joyning Iſſue and Intereſt with Gods ſtated and declared enemies, and they may expect to be ranked up amongſt the number of theſe enemies (that our ſweet Lord Jeſus Chriſt, who is King and alone Head of his Church,) will paſs that Sentence againſt, if ſpeedy Repentance prevent not, *Luk.* 19. 27. *But theſe mine enemies which would not that I ſhould reign over them, bring hither and ſlay them before me.*

Likewiſe I do proteſt againſt the paying of Teind (which properly belongs to the Miniſters of Chriſt) to Mr. *John Barckley*, which is acknowledging him who is both a Theif and a Robber, to be a lawful Miniſter of Jeſus Chriſt, according to that Scripture, *Joh.* 10. *He that entereth not by the door into the ſheepfold, but climbeth up ſome other way, the ſame is a theif and a robber*, which Theif and Robber Mr. *John Barckley* is; for Chriſt is the door, *ver.* 7. *I am the door of the ſheep*, and not the Lordly Prelats, which was the entry that Mr. *John Barckley* entered in, and all the reſt both did, and doeth enter; therefore they are all Thieves and Robbers, *Mat.* 20. 25. *Ye know that the princes of the* Gentiles *exerciſed dominion over them*, &c. *ver.* 26. *but it ſhall not be ſo among you, but whoſoever will be great among you, let him be your Miniſter*, Luk. 22. 25, 26, 27. *But I am among you as he that ſerveth*; 1 Pet. 5. 3. *Neither as being lords over Gods heritage, but being enſamples to the flock*: And Mr. *John Barckley* was thruſt in upon the flock againſt their wills by the Lordly Prelat, without ſo much as the call of the leaſt of all the Paroch; yea, I was witneſs that day, that he was thruſt in (to my ſhame I may tell this, and to the praiſe of his free Grace that has reclaimed me,) and there was not one that would riſe to take him by the hand, till they were threatned by the reſt of the Hirelings; therefore he entered not in by the door, but climb'd up an other way, therefore he is both a Theif and a Robber, and a falſe Prophet, *Jer.* 23. 21. *I have not ſent theſe Prophets, yet they ran; I have not ſpoken unto them, yet they propheſied.* Mat. 7. 15, 16. *Beware of falſe Prophets, which come to you in ſheeps clothing, but inwardly they are ravening Wolves, ye ſhall know them by their fruits*: 2 Pet. 2. 12. *But theſe are natural brute beaſts*, &c. Jer. 10. 21. *For the Paſtors are become brutiſh, and have not ſought the Lord; therefore they ſhall not proſper.* Ezek. 13. 3. *Thus ſaith the Lord, wo unto the fooliſh Prophet*, ver. 9. *Mine hand ſhall be upon the Prophets that ſee viſions and divine lies, they ſhall not be in the aſſembly of my people, neither ſhall they be written in the writings of the houſe of* Iſrael, *neither ſhall they enter into the land of* Iſrael, *and ye ſhall know that I am the Lord God, becauſe, even becauſe they have ſeduced my people, ſaying,*

peace,

peace, and there was no peace, &c. to the 27. 2 Cor. 11. 15. *Therefore it is no great thing if these Ministers also be transformed as the Ministers of Righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works.* Ezek. 34. 4. *Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that doth feed themselves, &c.* Ezek. 13. 4. *And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Prophets shall be ashamed, &c.* Mal. 2. 8. *But ye are departed out of the way, ye have caused many to stumble at the Law, ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the Lord: therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, &c.* *O ye dumb dogs, the blood of many souls will be found in your skirts, and in a little God will bring you to judgement, and will require the blood of all the souls in that congregation at your hands.* Ezek. 3. 18. *the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thine hand.* I doubt nothing, but it would be acceptable service to God, to do with you all as *Elijah* did with *Baals* prophets. 1 King. 18. 40. *Take the Prophets of Baal, let not one of them escape, ye greedy dogs which can never have enough; come say ye, let us fill our selves with strong drink, and the morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundantly.* Ye think your kingdoms will never be shaken, I doubt nothing but *Baals* Prophets thought so too, but they got a disappointment, and I doubt nothing but ye will meet with the like: They cried to their God, but they were not heard: When any thing troubles you, ye may cry to your God, which is your Belly, and to your King, which is King *Charles*, but rather that *Tyrant*, which you are all crying up so fast, and blessing him; it may be ye may get some kind of comfort, but I am sure of that, the day will come, that both you and others that are crying him so fast up this day, will cry and not be heard, and will be made to curse your King and your God and look upward. It may be some will say, What needs all this hatred? I answer, *Psal.* 139. 21. *Do not I hate them O Lord, that hate thee, and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee; I hate them with a perfect hatred, I count them as mine enemies.* They'll may be say, I may hate them and not cry out to let all the world know of it. I answer, *Luk.* 19. 40. *I tell you, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.* I doubt not but some will say that I am mad, to do that which will procure the hatred of all Ranks; I care not what perjured Apostates say, for my God hath said unto me, *fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.* I confess, if I would have sought counsel at flesh and blood, or yet at backsliding Ministers or Professors, I would not have ventured; but praise to the Name of my God, he hath advised me better in *Matth.* 10. 28. *Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul, but rather fear him which is able to kill both soul and body in Hell.*

Written and subscribed with mine own hand, at
the day of 1685.

Sic subscribitur, RUSSEL.